

## Message Text

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE DISSEMINATE FURTHER AS APPROPRIATE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR XF XT DA

SUBJ: GULDBERG DISCUSSION WITH FONMIN FAHMY

SUMMARY: DURING COURSE OF A PRIVATE VISIT TO EGYPT, FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER OVE GULDBERG DISCUSSED THE CURRENT ME SITUATION WITH EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY ON MAR 30. GULDBERG TOLD PRESS REPORTER THAT FAHMY WAS CRITICAL OF THE ATTITUDE TAKEN BY EUROPE AND THOUGHT US FOREIGN POLICY DIFFICULTIES HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE ISRAELI ATTITUDES. FAHMY SAID, HOWEVER, THAT SOME WAY HAD TO BE FOUND TO PERMIT 150 MILLION ARABS TO CO-EXIST WITH ISRAEL AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE. END SUMMARY.

1. DANISH PRESS (POLITIKEN, APRIL 1) CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER GULDBERG OBTAINED AFTER HIS RETURN FROM EIGHT-DAY VISIT IN EGYPT, MARCH 24-31. GULDBERG HAD A THREE-QUARTER HOUR DISCUSSION WITH FAHMY SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 30, BETWEEN BRIEFINGS THE EGYPTIAN  
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FOREIGN MINISTER GAVE AFRO-ASIAN AMBASSADORS SATURDAY

AFTERNOON AND EC AMBASSADORS SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

2. IN THE INTERVIEW GULDBERG CHARACTERIZED PRESIDENT SADAT'S SPEECH OF MARCH 29 AS "A STRONG AND WISE SPEECH WHICH MIGHT BRING A SMALL IMPROVEMENT IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT, WHOSE PEACE TALKS OTHERWISE APPEAR TO HAVE ENDED WITHOUT RESULT". GULDBERG TOLD REPORTER THAT THE SPEECH WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 27 BUT WAS POSTPONED UNTIL MARCH 29. HE SAID HE TOLD FAHMY THAT HE HAD BEEN "VERY RELIEVED" BY THE SPEECH WHICH HE CONSIDERED "A STRONG MOVE FROM THE GYPTIAN SIDE".

3. ACCORDING TO GULDBERG, FAHMY WAS CRITICAL OF EUROPEAN PPLICY TOWARD THE ME. "I TOLD HIM THAT WE HAD TO SEE THE SITUATION IN PERSPECTIVE: SOUTHEAST ASIA; EAST OF SUEZ; WEST OF SUEZ; AND PORTUGAL. IT MUST BE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE WHOLE TREND SEEMS SO VERY SERIOUS TO A EUROPEAN - AN EAST-WEST 'VIETNAMIZATION' IN EUROPE. TO ME THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT THE ECONOMIC STRENGTH OF WEST GERMANY WAS THEIR (THE EUROPEANS?) STRONGEST DEFENSE, AND THAT, THEREFORE, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO SHARE WITH OTHERS WITHOUT SECURITY-POLITICAL GUARANTEES. THESE PROBLEMS ARE THE REASON WHY EUROPE HAS NO DEFINITE ATTITUDE."

4. QUESTIONED REGARDING FAHMY'S VIEWS, GULDBERG SAID THAT HE (FAHMY) WAS INFLUENCED BY THE SADAT SPEECH AND IT WAS DIFFICULT TO GET HIM TO ELABORATE. FAHMY HAD CRITICIZED ISRAEL WHICH HE FELT WAS "TOO ADAMANT". WHEN GULDBERG ASKED WHAT WAS REQUIRED IN ORDER FOR ISRAEL TO FEEL SECURE, FAHMY REMARKED THAT "THE US FOREIGN POLICY SITUATION HAD UNDOUBTEDLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE DIFFICULTIES." FAHMY DID SAY THAT "A WAY HAD TO BE FOUND TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR A COMBINED AREA OF 150 MILLION ARABS TO CO-EXIST WITH ISRAEL AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE". HE SAID THAT IN ITS TIME A TRANS-PLANT HAD BEEN MADE WHICH MIGHT POSSIBLY SUCCEED, BUT IN SUCH CASE THE TRANSPLANTED ORGAN WOULD HAVE TO ADJUST TO THE BODY AS A WHOLE.  
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5. IN THE INTERVIEW, GULDBERG REFERRED TO THE SADAT STATEMENT THAT EGYPT WOULD RENEW THE MANDATE FOR THE UN PEACE-KEEPING FORCES FOR THREE MONTHS AND HIS INDICATION THAT THE SUEZ CANAL WOULD OPEN ON JUNE 5. THE LATTER, ACCORDING TO GULDBERG, WAS "A DEMAND BY ISRAEL TO PROVE THE EGYPTIAN DESIRE TO CREATE PEACE".

6. COMMENT: FROM THE TONE OF THE INTERVIEW IT IS CLEAR THAT GULDBERG WAS ENCOURAGED BY HIS TALK WITH FAHMY, AT LEAST IN THE SHORT RUN. GULDBERG SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THE SADAT SPEECH HAD PROVIDED A BREATHING SPELL WHICH COULD VERY WELL OPEN A SMALL POSSIBILITY OF NEW MOVEMENT. HE ADDED, HOWEVER: "PERSONALLY, I DO NOT BELIEVE IN ANY QUICK RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE". TYING THE ME SITUATION TO THE CSCE, GULDBERG CONCLUDED: "I DOUBT THE POSSIBILITIES OF A EUROPEAN PEACE CONFERENCE NOW, UNLESS THE SITUATION CHANGES ESSENTIALLY BY JUNE. THE TREND IS TOWARDS A STRONGER US-USSR CONFRONTATION."  
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